

Borough of Aylesbury

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.


ANNUAL REPORT

on the Health of the Borough
for the year 1938



JOHN T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS,
M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

ALFRED LEE,
A.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.
Borough Sanitary Inspector.



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HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor T. GOODCHILD (*Chairman*)

Alderman J. J. Evett (*The Mayor*).

„ A. T. Adkins, J.P. (*Deputy Mayor*).

„ P. R. E. Eaton.

„ G. J. Thrasher, O.B.E., J.P.

Councillor Mrs. Coventon, M.B.E.

„ F. B. Howard

„ W. Johnson.

„ Mrs. Paterson.

„ A. West (*Vice-Chairman*).

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :-

John T. C. Sims-Roberts, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H

Sanitary Inspectors :-

Alfred Lee, A.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.,
Borough Sanitary Inspector.

Robert W. Johnson, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Additional Borough Sanitary Inspector.

Clerical Staff :-

Douglas Andrew, A.R.San.I.
Reginald E. Cleary.

Borough of Aylesbury.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Aylesbury.

February, 1939.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of
Aylesbury.**

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the health and vital statistics of the Borough for the year 1938.

Dr. Parrott resigned his appointment on the 30th September, 1938, after 33 years' service, and in the short period at the close of the year, during which I have had an opportunity of making a survey of the health services of the Borough, I have formed the opinion that the administration, and co-operation with other departments are admirable.

In this report for purposes of convenience I have incorporated the annual survey of the Borough Sanitary Inspector.

During the year the Borough has been free from any severe epidemic of infectious disease, certain schools (chiefly infants departments) having outbreaks of minor infectious disease such as chicken-pox and mumps.

The services of the Isolation Hospital in the Borough have been utilised to the full extent, forty-four cases of Scarlet Fever have been treated there, out of a total of forty-six occurring in the town.

Mr. Dugdale, the Deputy Borough Surveyor, has supplied the information concerning the recently erected public sanitary conveniences of the town, and statistics on the local rainfall. I wish to express my thanks to him and to all members of the Health Department who have assisted in the compilation of this report.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS,
M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Section A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	3,288 acres.
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-1938	14,490
Local estimate of resident population, mid-1938 ..	14,514
Population, 1931 Census	13,387
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books	4,485
Rateable value	£119,978
Sum represented by a penny rate	£463

The chief industries are agriculture, production of butter and cheese, printing, rivet manufacture, and hat making.

Unemployment.—At the 31st December, 1938 :—

	300 men
	50 women
Total ..	<u>350 persons were unemployed.</u>

At the corresponding date in 1937 :—

	242 men
	75 women
Total ..	<u>317 persons were unemployed.</u>

The increase in unemployment was largely due to the bad weather conditions, resulting in the temporary cessation of outdoor work such as in the building trades.

VITAL STATISTICS.

			M.	F.
Live births = Legitimate			109	108
= Illegitimate			2	6
Total ..			<u>111</u>	<u>114</u>

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population :
Legitimate, 15.00 ; Illegitimate, 0.60.

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births : 16.21.

	M.	F.	Total.
Deaths	91	82	173
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population : 11.9.			

Deaths from Puerperal causes :—

	Deaths.
Puerperal Sepsis	0
Other puerperal causes	0
	—
Total ..	0
	==
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	0

	M.	F.
Deaths of infants under one year of age ..	5	2
Death rate of infants under one year of age :—		
All infants per 1,000 live births		31.1
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		32.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		21
,, ,, Measles (all ages)		1
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)		0
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		0
Birth rate England and Wales, 1938		15.1
Death rate England and Wales, 1938		11.6
Infantile Mortality rate, England and Wales, 1938 .		53

Diseases causing most deaths were :—

Heart disease	58
Cancer	21
Pneumonia	9
Bronchitis	4
Tuberculosis	9
Violence	9
Influenza	3
Circulatory system	14
Peptic ulcer	4

The ratio of deaths from Cancer, Heart Disease and Tuberculosis to total deaths for the five years including 1938 :—

	Cancer.	Heart disease.	Tuberculosis.
1934	1 in 5.0	1 in 5.0	1 in 26.2
1935	1 in 5.6	1 in 4.9	1 in 27.8
1936	1 in 4.9	1 in 4.3	1 in 21.2
1937	1 in 7.5	1 in 4.4	1 in 15.0
1938	1 in 8.2	1 in 3.0	1 in 19.2
Averages for 5 years..	1 in 6.2	1 in 4.3	1 in 21.9

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Pathological specimens. These are examined at the Pathological Laboratory, Princess Mary's R.A.F. Hospital, Halton, and at the Clinical Research Association, London.

Voluntary Hospital. The town and district is excellently served by the Royal Bucks Hospital, (115 beds), which is centrally situated in the County and Borough. A new commodious out-patients department has recently been erected and fitted with modern equipment.

Maternity and Child Welfare. The Infant Welfare Centre is under the control of the Bucks County Council at Pebble Lane, and is open every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The premises are also used as a dental clinic and as a centre for diphtheria immunisation. 29 children were immunised against diphtheria during 1938.

Infectious Disease Hospital. The area is served by the Aylesbury Joint Board Isolation Hospital, (45 beds), situated on the outskirts of the town within the Borough boundary, between Aylesbury and Stoke Mandeville. It consists of a scarlet fever and diphtheria block, in which are observation wards planned on modern lines, together with a separate cubicle block. A well equipped motor ambulance is garaged on the premises for the use of the district served by the hospital. The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent, and the nursing staff consists of a Matron, Deputy Matron, two trained staff nurses, and six probationers.

Ambulance Services of the Borough. In addition to the ambulance possessed by the Royal Bucks Hospital, the St. John's Ambulance Brigade maintain two ambulances for dealing with accident and other cases. The ambulance services of the Borough are adequate.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. The Borough comes wholly within the statutory area served by the Chiltern Hills Water Company.

Samples of Water for analysis and bacteriological examination are taken from different areas in the Borough each month and the result is submitted to the Health Committee. A gathering

ground, well isolated from habitations, and situated in the chalk of the Chiltern Hills at New Ground and Dancers End, has produced a supply excellent in quality for many years. Certain difficulties have been experienced in the pressure of water and the Company have recently taken steps to increase the supply from new borings.

Following is a copy of an analysis made in December, 1938 :—

Total solids dried at 180 degs. C.	..	..	14.5
Chlorine in Chlorides	..	..	1.2
Free Ammonia	..	..	0.0024
Albuminoid Ammonia	..	..	0.0004
Nitrogen in Nitrates	..	..	0.40
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80 degs. F.	..	..	0.000

Physical examination: Appearance clear and colourless, trace of white chalk deposit. Odourless.

Hardness (Total) : 9.0

No typhoid bacilli or other pathogenic organisms were found.

The Analyst stated that the water was of good quality and quite suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Drainage and Sewerage. The drainage and sewerage of the Borough is satisfactory, and is on the partially separate system, surface water from streets and buildings being discharged direct to watercourses at various points. Owing to differences in level, four localities are provided with pumping stations to lift the sewage into the main sewers. These are situated at Mandeville Road, Buckingham Road, California, and Tring Road. There is also a small pump house in Oxford Road to deal with an individual property.

Sewage Disposal. The Sewage Disposal Works, an account of which was given in the Annual Report for 1937, remains unaltered.

Closet Accommodation. No closets on the conservancy system exist in the town, all existing closets are water flushed.

Public Sanitary Conveniences. The progressive policy of the Borough Council has during the past two years, dealt to a large extent with this section of the Public Health services, so that at the present time the centre of the town is well catered for in this respect.

Underground conveniences for both sexes have been constructed in Kingsbury Square under the island used as a centre for omnibus services, and were opened towards the end of 1937.

At the same time conveniences for both sexes were erected in the High Street at the entrance to the Vale.

The Council have in mind the erection of further Public Conveniences on two other sites in the Borough.

Public Cleansing. This has proceeded in a satisfactory manner.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. Inspections made under the Public Health Acts were as follows :—

Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	858
Butchers' shops	..	..	..	..	412
Food shops	..	..	..	..	1,664
Dairies and Cowsheds	..	..	..	..	237
Bakehouses	....	..	..	..	62
Infected house visits	..	..	..	..	74
Smoke observations	..	..	..	..	19

Smoke Abatement. Smoke nuisances from various factory chimneys have been reported, and although the nuisances have been minimised, there is still room for improvement in some cases.

Swimming Bath and Pool. The Purification of the Vale Swimming Pool continues satisfactory.

Eradication of Bed-Bugs.

1. (a) Council houses infested 10 } 19 disinfested.
(b) Other houses infested 9 }
2. Methods employed for disinfestation are spraying and gassing. The insecticide used being "Zaldecide" and the fumigants are "Cimex" and "Furmex" blocks.
3. When moving persons from condemned houses the furniture is treated against vermin.
4. All disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority.
5. The Sanitary Inspector advises the tenants on precautions to be taken to prevent recurrence.

Schools. The general sanitary condition of the Elementary Schools continues good, and the water supply is sufficient.

Local Rainfall.

January	....	3.00 inches.	July	.....	1.63 inches.
February	....	0.75 "	August	.....	2.19 "
March	.....	0.47 "	September	..	1.47 "
April	.....	0.08 "	October	.....	3.37 "
May	.....	2.11 "	November	...	2.84 "
June	.....	0.87 "	December	...	2.41 "

Total rainfall for the year..... 21.19 inches.

The total rainfall for the year was one of the lowest on record. The average for the previous 25 years being 26.19 inches.

Section D.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 286
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 489
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 241
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 403
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 2
 - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 209
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 209
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—
 - (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936 :—
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.. 0
 - (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners 0
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0
 - (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.. .. . 0

(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..	2
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1
(d)	Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4. Housing Act 1936 (Part IV.—Overcrowding) :—

(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	0
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ..	0
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ..	0
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases.	9
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ..	0

There are now no overcrowding cases within the knowledge of the Public Health Department in the Borough.

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) **Milk Supply.**—Pasteurisation is carried out on a large scale at Messrs. Nestles' and the Co-operative Society's premises, the latter Company having recently purchased a new pasteurising plant. Frequent samples are taken to ensure that the plant is working satisfactorily, and that the raw milk is up to standard in fat content. The results of the cleansing processes to which the milk supply is subjected at these premises, emphasise the necessity for constant vigilance to ensure cleanliness of production at the source. It is to be hoped that the Bucks water scheme will assist milk producers in their endeavours in this direction.

Number of Tuberculin-Tested milk retailers in the Borough. 4

(b) **Meat and Other Foods.***Carcases Inspected and Condemned.*

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	668	219	3,927	1,515
Number inspected	405	67	1,079	847
All diseases except Tuberculosis.				
Whole carcases condemned	2	1	5	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	22	3	11	12
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	5.9%	5.9%	1.48%	1.88%
Tuberculosis only.				
Whole carcases condemned	5	—	—	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	13	—	—	32
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.4%	—	—	4.48%

Section F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

The notifications as supplied by the Registrar-General were:—

	Cases Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	46	44	0
Erysipelas	3	3	0
Diphtheria	3	3	0
Paratyphoid fever ..	1	1	0
Puerperal pyrexia ..	2	—	0
Tuberculosis (Phthisis and non-pulmonary) ..	12	—	9
Meningitis	1	1	0
Dysentery	1	0	0
Ophthalmia neonatorum ..	1	0	0

One death occurred at the Isolation Hospital, a child aged 18 months, dying of measles and enteritis one day following admission.

Immunisation against diphtheria is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centre, Pebble Lane, at the request of parents. 29 children were immunised against diphtheria during 1938.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
15—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	5	6	—	1	4	1	—	2

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

Under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and the Public Health Act, 1936, visits have been paid to mechanical and non-mechanical factories and workplaces, and informal action taken where necessary to remedy contraventions of the requirements of these Acts.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937. PARTS I AND VIII.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power	289	10	Nil.
Factories without mechanical power			
TOTAL	289	10	Nil.

2. Defects found.

Particulars.	Number of defects.			No. of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1)	4	4	—	—
Overcrowding (Sec. 2) ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (Sec. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (Sec. 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (Sec. 7) :—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ..	4	4	—	—
Not separate for sexes ..	1	—	—	—
Other offences	1	1	—	—
TOTAL	10	9	—	—

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises. It was not found necessary to take any action in respect of outworkers' premises.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR
1938

Borough of Aylesbury.

*Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Aylesbury.*

1st January, 1939.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1938, this being the Thirtieth Annual Report it has been my privilege to submit.

NUISANCES, CONTRAVENTIONS OF BYELAWS, ETC.

Complaints received and investigated.....	3
Nuisances, etc., found without complaint.....	69
Nuisances, etc., abated.....	64
Statutory Notices served under the Public Health Acts. .	Nil
Informal Notices served under the Public Health Acts. ...	46
Prosecutions.....	Nil

For the Thirtieth year in succession no prosecution against a property owner has been recorded and I suggest the three complaints received of nuisances is a wonderful tribute to the conditions existing in the Borough.

HOUSES AND PREMISES INSPECTED.

The total number of inspections under the *Public Health Acts* was 4,268. This figure includes the following :—

Dairies and Cowsheds.....	237
Bakehouses.	62
Butchers' Shops.	412
Slaughterhouses.....	858
Food Shops.	1,664
Visits under the Tuberculosis Order.	12
Infected House Visits	74
Marine Stores.....	90
Smoke Observations.	19
Miscellaneous Visits.	15
	<hr/>
	3,443
	<hr/>

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

During the year 194 houses have been measured up and Permitted Number Certificates in respect of them issued to the owners.

DEMOLITION ORDERS.

A demolition order was served in connection with the premises known as No. 96a Oxford Road. The premises have been demolished.

A demolition order has been served in connection with premises known as No. 126 Cambridge Street which will be demolished shortly.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

In addition to the foregoing, the ordinary work of Housing Inspection has been steadily proceeded with as shown by the following :—

Houses Inspected and Recorded.....	241
Houses Re-inspected.....	500
Statutory Notices served upon Owners.....	2
Informal Notices served upon Owners.....	131

The defects dealt with under these notices were as follows :—

Defective Roofs	145
" Paths and Yard Pavings.....	28
" Interior Wall Plaster.....	66
" Ceilings.....	73
" Windows..	158
" Doors.....	79
" Board Floors.....	85
" Solid Floors.....	36
" Staircases	23
Dirty rooms renovated.....	193
Defective coppers.....	3
" Stoves and Firegrates.....	87
Sinks provided.....	41
Defective sink wastes and traps.....	36
" Floor Ventilation.....	37
Damp proof courses.....	4
Dampness in walls.....	256
Defective chimneys.....	83
Walls repaired and repointed.....	96
Defective W.C. flushing apparatus.....	26
New W.C. pans provided.....	27
Foul W.C. pans.....	5
Flushing cisterns supplied to closets.....	6

Defective gully traps and surrounds.....	15
Drains unstopped.....	14
„ examined and tested.....	123
„ re-laid.....	11
Ventilation shafts.....	17
Defective Rainwater pipes and Gutters.....	123
Dustbins provided.....	55

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The notifications of infectious disease during the year numbered 81.

Rooms disinfected.....	68
Visits to infected premises.....	71

DISINFESTATION.

During the year 96 rooms together with the furniture therein have been sprayed or gassed against vermin.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Under the provisions of the above mentioned Act, fourteen factories were measured up, fire escape facilities inspected and where necessary improved prior to the granting of fire escape certificates as required by the Act.

Mechanical factories on the register requiring visiting.....	36
Non-mechanical factories on the register requiring visiting.....	79
Visits paid to factories.....	289

PREMISES ON THE REGISTER REQUIRING VISITING.

Bakehouses.	16
Dairies.	17
Cowsheds.	14
	<hr/>
	47
	<hr/>

Visits paid to Bakehouses.	62
Visits paid to Cowsheds and Dairies.	237
	<hr/>
	299
	<hr/>

NOTICES SERVED *re* CLEANSING, WATER SUPPLY, Etc.

Cowsheds and Dairies.....	57
Bakehouses.	35
Factories and Workplaces.....	12
	<hr/>
	104
	<hr/>

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Three Cowkeepers within the Borough are licensed by the County Council as producers of "Accredited" Milk. Another Cowkeeper is licensed by the County Council to produce "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

Two dairies hold "Pasteuriser's" licences and three milk purveyors are licensed to retail "Tuberculin Tested" milk, whilst another purveyor is licensed to bottle and retail "Tuberculin Tested" milk. These licences are issued by the Borough Council.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND FOOD SUPPLY.

Old Registered Slaughterhouses in the Borough.....	9
Slaughterhouses Licensed annually.....	2
Slaughterhouse Inspections.....	858
Butcher's Shops Inspections.....	433
Food Shops Inspections.....	1,664
Notices served <i>re</i> Cleansing.....	49

Under the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations the number of animals notified for slaughter during the year was as follows :—

	<i>Beasts.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
First Quarter.	131	57	1,100	404	1,692
Second Quarter.	176	52	1,120	296	1,644
Third Quarter.	190	62	1,028	395	1,675
Fourth Quarter.	171	48	679	420	1,318
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	668	219	3,927	1,515	6,329
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The number of carcasses examined was as follows :—

	<i>Killed.</i>	<i>Examined</i>	<i>Percentage.</i>
Beef.	668	405	60.63%
Calves.	219	67	30.59%
Sheep.	3,927	1,079	27.47%
Pigs.	1,515	847	55.9 %
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6,329	2,398	37.89%
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The following mentioned unsound food was surrendered and destroyed during 1938 :—

Beef.	5,548½
Beef Offals.....	795
Pork.....	2,185½
Pork Offals.....	129½
Mutton.	394
Mutton Offals.....	31
Veal	197½
Miscellaneous.....	152
	<hr/>
	9,433 lbs.
	<hr/>

4 Tons, 4 Cwts., 25 lbs.

The returns show a falling off in the number of animals slaughtered and that the quantity of unsound food decreased by 5,813 lbs. It has not been necessary to take any legal proceedings during the year and the meat traders are to be congratulated upon the methods adopted to protect meat from dust and flies, for the general cleanliness of their premises and their slaughterhouses and for the care taken to ensure that no unnecessary suffering is inflicted upon the animals intended for food. Under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 new legislation affecting slaughterhouses comes into operation during 1939 and such will be placed before the Council in due course.

My thanks, also those of the general public are again due to the Aylesbury Cattle Insurance Society, whose efforts do so much to guarantee a disease free meat supply to everyone trading in this Borough.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

Licences issued for the storage of petrol.....	68
Licences issued for the storage of carbide.....	11
Total fees received for the above licences.	£51 0s. 0d.

Quantity licensed to be kept :—

Petroleum Spirit.	122,871 gallons.
Carbide of Calcium.....	3,152 lbs.
Inspection of Carbide and Petrol Stores.....	38

CANAL BOATS ACTS AND REGULATIONS.

Boats Inspected.....	31
Notices served.....	nil.

Infringements :—

Registration.....	3 (remedied informally.)
-------------------	--------------------------

The condition of the boats and their occupants was satisfactory. There was no infectious disease on any boat.

SHOPS ACTS.

These Acts become more difficult to apply every year and much time has been occupied in explaining to shopkeepers the various provisions; especially has this been the case under the 1934 Act, dealing with the employment of young persons and the Sunday Closing Act. I am of opinion the traders of this Borough have no desire to contravene the Acts and until that opinion is altered I shall welcome the opportunity to assist them by explaining to any or all of them any point they desire to raise.

240 visits were made during the year.

GENERAL.

The foregoing are briefly the facts one is able to report upon. These could have been lengthened by superfluous remarks, plus hundreds of other minor matters occupying our time. The Department, was also called upon to put in a lot of additional work during the National Crisis and at the moment of writing the staff, together with additional clerical assistance, are helping with the Government Evacuation Scheme.

I would once again call the attention of the Council to the unsatisfactory condition of the accommodation roads in various parts of the town which in previous annual reports I have termed elongated dustholes.

I take this opportunity to thank the Health Committee, my colleagues and my very small staff for the consideration and assistance rendered me during the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient servant,

ALFRED LEE, F.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.,
Borough Sanitary Inspector.

